

Four Corners Air Quality Task Force Meeting

Wednesday, August 9, 2006

Cortez Convention Center

Meeting Record

Attendees: see separate attachment

Welcome & Opening Remarks

Margie Perkins, CDPHE, opened the meeting and welcomed all participants to the fourth quarterly meeting of the Task Force. She applauded the group's hard work and continued interest and effort in the process.

Mike Silverstein, CDPHE, asked for a show of hands of any first time attendees, and made a special welcome to newcomers. He then made some opening remarks to clarify the mission of the Task Force, which is to develop a broad list of possible mitigation options to address air quality in the Four Corners Region. These options will be compiled into a report that will be published on the Four Corners Air Quality Task Force website and provided to the affected air quality agencies for consideration. This work will be final in December of 2007.

Agenda Review

Rebecca Reynolds, Facilitator and Project Manager gave a quick overview of the agenda and indicated that the next meeting would be on November 8th at the Courtyard Marriott in Farmington from 1:00 to 6:00pm. Details will be posted soon on the 4C website.

Overview of Mercury Issues

Mark McMillan, Manager, CO Mercury Program, CDPHE

See separate PPT posted on website, plus handout by Sylvia Oliva, Mesa Verde National Park

Mark presented an overview of the mercury issue that included its toxicity, its exposure pathways, and key populations that are at risk. He then discussed solutions to addressing mercury, both regulatory and pollution prevention activities. His presentation was followed by a brief Q&A, which was continued in the first part of the Power Plan work group session (see work group session notes).

Overview of Review Process

Rebecca thanked all who submitted review input on the first round of mitigation option papers and reported that they have all been revised based on comment and compiled into a single Task Force Draft Report document that is posted on the web. It is a large file, so for those who would like one, there are CDs available. Check with Mark Jones, Task Force Coordinator.

Rebecca then reviewed guidelines for submitting review input on the Draft Report. Due to limited resources, the review process here is different from other processes. See the PPT posted and the Review Guidelines handout posted with the Draft report on the website. The primary difference is that instead of sending in comments on the document, *we are asking for reviewers to write their own material and insert it into the document.*

A brief review of work group breakout sessions was followed by a refreshment break and then the start of individual work group sessions. Each work group had its own agenda, which are posted on the website.

Note: All five Work Groups met for the next two hours. Notes from these sessions are posted separately under the work group web pages.

Work Group Report Backs & Next Steps

Work Group Coordinators

Other Sources

Work Group Coordinator: Rita Trujillo (NMED)

The focus of this meeting was transportation, which included more issues in the Four Corners than expected. Out of this discussion, 10 options were brainstormed to address. A representative from Colorado Region 9 Transport Group participated and encouraged linkage with their Clean Cities effort.

The group's next conference call will take place on September 1st at 8:30 am to discuss writing the options. Other conference calls will follow the regular schedule: Tues, 9/12 and Tues, 10/10 both at 9 am.

The focus of the work group during the November meeting will be alternative energy.

Oil & Gas

Work Group Coordinator: Cindy Allen (CDPHE)

The focus of this meeting was Exploration & Production (the upstream sector). Note that this does not include engines since all engines were addressed in the first round of papers.

Exploration & Production was split into four sub-categories:

- Tanks (Condensate, oil, produced water, etc.)
- Dehydrators
- Wells (Drilling, completing, operating)
- Pneumatics/Controllers, fugitive leaks

The group brainstormed some 30 or so potential mitigation options. They identified four drafting teams, and in the next two weeks will hold conference calls to determine which options will be selected for drafting.

The group will continue with the regular call schedule: Wed, Sept 6, Wed, Oct 4 and Wed, Nov 1 all at 2:00 pm.

Power Plants

Work Group Coordinator: Mark Jones (NMED)

The session started with a follow-up to the Mercury presentation with Mark McMillan. This was followed by a presentation on the Desert Rock Power Plant (see PPT posted).

The group then reviewed their brainstormed list of mitigation options and identified drafting leads for five or six of them. They will assign the rest in the next few weeks.

They will hold a conference call in two weeks, the exact date TBD; they will also continue to have the scheduled calls on the 2nd Wed. of the month: Sept. 13th and Oct. 11th at 4:00 pm.

Monitoring

Work Group Coordinator: Terry Hertel (NMED)

The first part of the session was devoted to a discussion of agency roles in monitoring, specifically New Mexico, Colorado and the National Park Service, and the different types of monitoring done by each. Some discussion points included:

- Enforcement vs. protocol
- Different requirements for various areas
- Monetary issues

The group then began its GAP analysis using a matrix of sites as the basis of the discussion.

This was followed by a discussion on mercury monitoring.

The draft Work Plan: asked for comments to be submitted on this.

The group will continue with their regular conference call schedule: 3rd Monday of the month at 2:00 pm (Aug 21, Sept 18 and Oct 16)

Cumulative Effects

Work Group Coordinator: Mike George (NPS)

The group discussed the first round of requests from O&G using the draft document developed prior to this meeting. CE has come up with four categories of responses. Any requests that CE determines are beyond its scope will be included in their section as "recommendations."

The group then identified volunteers to work on identified tasks: Engine requests will be handled by EPA, CO, and Industry, and Mobile Sources will be handled by BLM and NPS.

The group intends that each set of requests will be reviewed and responded to on a quarterly basis in keeping with the mitigation option development schedule.

The group next discussed the request to WRAP on developing a Four Corners inventory. They prioritized what they need from the inventory and will get back to WRAP with these results.

The group will continue their established conference call schedule: Thurs, 8/31, Thurs, 9/14 and 10/12 at 10:00 am.

NOTE: All work group conference call information will be posted on the individual work group web pages.

Other Business

Field Trip: Reminder: there is a field trip to Mesa Verde on Thursday, August 10th from 10:30 a.m. – 1:30 p.m. Meet in the parking lot outside the Holiday Inn. Let Mark Jones know you are coming.

Next Task Force Quarterly Meeting: Wednesday, November 8th, Courtyard by Marriott in Farmington, New Mexico. At the group's request, this meeting will begin earlier and last an hour longer. Please note the different timeframe: **1:00 – 6:00 pm.**

Adjourn

Rita Trujillo, NMED, thanked all meeting attendees for their participation and for the hard work put into developing the Task Force Draft Report. The meeting was adjourned at 7:00 pm.